

LITTLE CATECHISM.



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Little Catholic catechism
for beginners

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THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY.

LITTLE

CATHOLIC CATECHISM

FOR BEGINNERS.

PRINCIPALLY TRANSLATED FROM THE GERMAN OF

✓
REV. P. JOSEPH DEHARBE, S. J.,

BY

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PUBLISHED BY PERMISSION OF THE BISHOP OF BOSTON.

BOSTON:
THOMAS B. NOONAN & CO.

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PRAYERS.

The Holy Sign of the Cross.

IN the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer.

1. Our Father who art in heaven,
2. Hallowed be Thy name ;
3. Thy kingdom come ;
4. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven ;
5. Give us this day our daily bread ;
6. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us ;
7. And lead us not into temptation,
8. But deliver us from evil. Amen.

The Angelical Salutation.

1. Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee ;
2. Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.
3. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

The Apostles' Creed.

1. I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth ;

2. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord ;

3. Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary ;

4. Suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried ;

5. He descended into hell ; the third day He rose again from the dead ;

6. He ascended into heaven, sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty ;

7. From thence He shall come to judge the living and the dead.

8. I believe in the Holy Ghost,

9. The Holy Catholic Church, the Communion of Saints,

10. The forgiveness of sins,

11. The resurrection of the body,

12. And life everlasting. Amen.

An Act of Faith.

O my God ! I firmly believe all the sacred truths which the Catholic Church believes and teaches, because Thou hast revealed them, who canst neither deceive nor be deceived.

An Act of Hope.

O my God! trusting in Thy goodness and promises, I hope to obtain pardon for my sins, and life everlasting, through the merits of Jesus Christ, my Lord and Saviour.

An Act of Love.

O my God! I love Thee above all things with my whole heart and soul, because Thou art infinitely good and worthy of all love; I love also my neighbor as myself, for the love of Thee; I forgive all who have injured me, and ask pardon of all whom I have injured.

Act of Contrition.

O my God! I am most heartily sorry for all my sins, not only because by them I have lost heaven and deserved the pains of hell, but because they displease Thee, my God! who art most worthy of all my love for Thy most amiable and adorable perfections; and I firmly purpose, by Thy holy grace, never more to offend Thee, and to do all that I can to atone for my sins.

Morning Prayers.

When you awake, give your first thoughts to God, saying, —

O my God! I give myself entirely to Thee.

Getting out of bed, make the sign of the cross, and say, —

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

When you are dressed, kneel down, and say the following prayers: —

O my God! I adore and love Thee with all my heart. I return thee thanks for the favors and benefits without number which I have received from Thy exceeding great goodness and mercy, especially for having preserved me last night.

O my God! who art worthy of all my love, I am sorry for having offended Thee. Grant that I may spend this day well, and rather die than commit any mortal sin.

O my God! grant, I beseech thee, that whatever I do this day may be pleasing to Thee; and vouchsafe to direct all my actions to Thy honor and glory.

O Holy Virgin! I put myself under Thy protection, and beg the help of Thy prayers.

O my good Angel! be Thou also my protector, and pray to God for me that I may do His holy will in all things.

Night Prayers.

At night, before retiring, kneel down, and say, —

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

O Almighty and Eternal God! prostrate at the feet of Thy holy and awful Majesty, I adore Thee with all the powers of my soul.

I believe, and hold for certain, all Thou teachest through Thy holy Church. I hope in Thy infinite goodness and mercy, and I love Thee with all my heart.

O my God! I give thee thanks, through Jesus Christ, my only hope, for all the favors Thou hast been pleased to grant me, especially for creating me in Thine own image and likeness, for redeeming me with Thy Son's precious blood, for making me a Christian, and preserving me this day. Therefore, I beseech the blessed Virgin, and all the Saints, to give Thee thanks for me, forever and ever. Amen.

O my God! give me grace to know in what I have offended Thee, and give me a perfect sorrow for my sins.

Here examine your conscience, and see what sins you have committed during the day.

Then make an Act of Contrition.

Prayer before Meals.

Bless us, O Lord! and these Thy gifts which we are about to receive from Thy bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayer after Meals.

We give Thee thanks, O Almighty God, for all Thy benefits, who livest and reignest world without end. Amen.

The Angelus.

V. The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary,

R. And she conceived of the Holy Ghost. Hail Mary, &c.

V. Behold the handmaid of the Lord.

R. May it be done unto me according to thy word. Hail Mary, &c.

V. And the word was made flesh,

R. And dwelt among us. Hail Mary, &c.

Let us Pray.

Pour forth, we beseech Thee, O Lord, Thy grace into our hearts, that we, to whom the Incarnation of Christ Thy Son was made known by the message of an angel, may by His passion and cross be brought to the glory of His resurrection, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

The Confiteor.

I confess to Almighty God, to the blessed Mary ever Virgin, to blessed Michael the Archangel, to blessed John the Baptist, to the Holy Apostles Peter and Paul, and to all the Saints, that I have sinned exceedingly in thought, word, and deed, through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault. Therefore I beseech the blessed Mary ever Virgin, blessed Michael the Archangel, blessed John the Baptist, the Holy Apostles Peter and Paul, and all the Saints, to pray to the Lord our God for me.

May the Almighty God have mercy on me, forgive me my sins, and bring me to everlasting life! Amen.

May the Almighty and Merciful Lord give me pardon, absolution and remission of all my sins! Amen.

*The Five Things we must believe in
order to be saved.*

1. There is but one God, in three persons, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost.

2. God is just; He rewards the good, and punishes the wicked.

3. The second person of the Blessed Trinity, Jesus Christ, became man and died for us upon the cross.

4. The soul of man is immortal.

5. The grace of God is necessary for salvation.

The Ten Commandments of God.

1. I am the Lord thy God. Thou shalt not have strange gods before Me.

2. Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain.

3. Remember that thou keep holy the Sabbath day.

4. Honor thy father and thy mother.

5. Thou shalt not kill.

6. Thou shalt not commit adultery.

7. Thou shalt not steal.

8. Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor.

9. Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's wife.

10. Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's goods.

The Six Commandments of the Church.

1. To rest from servile work on holy days of obligation.

2. To hear Mass with devotion on Sundays, and holy days of obligation.

3. To keep fast in Lent, on the Ember days, on the Fridays in Advent, and on the eves of certain Festivals; and to abstain from flesh on Fridays, and on other appointed days of abstinence.

4. To confess our sins to our Pastor, or other priest duly authorized, at least once a year.

5. To receive Holy Communion at Easter, or thereabout.

6. To contribute to the support of our Pastors.



CATECHISM.

PART FIRST.

On Faith.

1. *Why are you in this world?*

I am in this world to know God, to love Him and serve Him, and thus obtain heaven.

2. *What is the first thing necessary to know and serve God?*

We must believe firmly what God has revealed.

3. *Why must we believe firmly what God has revealed?*

Because God is the truth, eternal and infallible.

4. *Who teaches us what God has revealed?*

The Catholic Church teaches us what God has revealed.

5. *What then must the Catholic Christian believe?*

The Catholic Christian must believe all that God has revealed, and all that God's Church proposes for our belief.

6. *Is faith necessary for salvation?*

Yes; for without faith we cannot please God; and he that believeth not shall be condemned. (Heb. xi.; St. Matt. xxviii.)

7. *Does every kind of belief lead to salvation?*

No; the true faith alone, which the Catholic Church teaches, leads to salvation.

8. *Why does the Catholic Church alone possess the true faith?*

Because the Catholic Church alone has received the true faith from Christ, and has kept it unchanged.

9. *Is it enough for us to believe what is in the Scriptures?*

No; for the Scriptures do not contain all the teachings of Christ.

10. *Where do we find what is not in the Scriptures?*

In tradition, or the unwritten word of God.

11. *What must be the nature of our faith?*

Our faith must be so firm and constant that nothing can make us change it.

The Apostles' Creed.

1. *Where do we find, expressed in a few words, all that we are obliged to know and to believe?*

In the twelve articles of the Apostles' Creed.

2. *Say the Creed.*

I believe, &c. (See Prayers, page 4.)

FIRST ARTICLE.

“I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.”

§ 1. *On God.*

3. *Who is God?*

God is the Maker and Lord of heaven and earth, from whom all good things come.

4. *Is there more than one God?*

No; there is but one God.

5. *Can we see God?*

No; we cannot see God, for He is a spirit, and has no body.

6. *Had God a beginning?*

No; God is without beginning and without end. He is eternal.

7. *Where is God?*

God is everywhere; in heaven, on earth, and He fills all places.

8. *Does God know all things?*

Yes; God knows and sees all things, even our most secret thoughts.

9. *Can God do all things?*

Yes; God can do all things.

10. *By what name do we call God, because He can do all things?*

We call Him "Almighty."

§ 2. *On the Three Divine Persons.*

11. *How many persons are there in God?*

There are three persons in God; the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost.

12. *Is each of these persons God?*

Yes; the Father is God, the Son is God, the Holy Ghost is God.

13. *If each of the three persons is God, are there more Gods than one?*

No; the three persons are but one and the same God.

14. *Is one of the persons older or more powerful than another?*

No; each of the three persons exists from eternity; they are equal in power, in goodness, and in perfection.

15. *What do we call the mystery of one God in three persons?*

The mystery of the most Holy Trinity.

§ 3. *The Creation and Government of the World.*

16. *Why do we call God the Creator of heaven and earth?*

Because God made heaven and earth, and all things contained in them.

17. *Out of what did God make the world?*

God made the world out of nothing, by His almighty will.

18. *What does God continually do for the world?*

God preserves the world and governs it.

19. *What is the meaning of the words, "God preserves the world?"*

They mean that the world lasts because God so wills it.

20. *What do we mean when we say, "God governs the world?"*

We mean that God takes care of all in the world, and that He disposes and guides all according to His will.

21. *What do we call this preservation and government of the world?*

The preservation and government of the world we call "Divine Providence."

22. *Does God also care for us?*

Yes, God cares for us, because from Him we receive our life and health, our

home, our food and clothing, and all that is good for body and soul.

23. *Why does God give us so many good things?*

God gives us so many good things, because He is our FATHER. He is the kindest of Fathers.

24. *Since God is so kind a Father, what must we do for him?*

We must be His pious and good children, and love him above all things.

§ 4. *The Angels.*

25. *Did God create anything else besides this world?*

Yes; God created an immense number of Spirits, whom we call Angels.

26. *In what state were the Angels created?*

The Angels were all created good and happy.

27. *Did all the Angels remain good and happy?*

No; many disobeyed God, and were therefore cast into hell.

28. *What are the fallen Angels called?*

The fallen Angels are called devils, or wicked spirits.

29. *Why are the devils called wicked spirits?*

Because they hate God, and tempt us to sin.

30. *What do the good Angels do for us?*

The good Angels love us, pray for us, and protect us in soul and body.

31. *Who is your Guardian-Angel?*

My Guardian-Angel is the Angel whom God has given me to be my special protector.

32. *What must you do for your Guardian-Angel?*

I must honor my Guardian-Angel, pray to him, thank him, and obey him.

§ 5. *Our First Parents, and their Fall.*

33. *Which is the noblest of God's creatures on earth?*

God's noblest creature on earth is man.

34. *In what manner did God create the first man?*

God made a body out of clay, and then breathed a soul into it; in this way the first man was created.

35. *Of what is man composed?*

Man is composed of a soul and a body.

36. *What is the soul?*

The soul is a spirit, made after the image of God, and without it we can neither think nor live.

37. *Who was the first man, and who the first woman that God created?*

The first man was Adam, the first woman was Eve.

38. *Were Adam and Eve good in the beginning?*

Yes, they were very good; they were pure and holy.

39. *Were they also happy?*

Yes; they were perfectly happy in the earthly paradise: and if they had not sinned, they would never have died.

40. *Did they remain always good and happy?*

No; they sinned by eating of a fruit which had been forbidden them, and on that account they were punished by Almighty God.

41. *How were they punished by Almighty God?*

They were driven out of paradise, and obliged to suffer many hardships, and were condemned to die.

42. *Did this sin inflict injury on our first parents only?*

No; through Adam this sin and its punishment fell upon us all, so that we are all born in sin.

43. *What is this sin called, in which we are born?*

It is called Original Sin.

44. *What would have happened to man if God had not shown mercy?*

No man could have obtained grace, or be saved.

45. *How did God show mercy to Adam and Eve?*

He promised them a Saviour who should take away their sins, and again open heaven to them.

46. *To whom did God first promise the Saviour?*

God promised the Saviour to our first parents immediately after their fall.

47. *When did the promised Saviour come?*

About four thousand years after the creation of the world.

SECOND ARTICLE.

“And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, Our Lord.”

1. *Whom did God send as Saviour?*

God sent Jesus Christ, His only Son, to save us from sin and hell.

2. *What does the name JESUS mean?*

Jesus means Saviour, or Redeemer.

3. *What does CHRIST mean?*

Christ signifies The Anointed.

4. *Why is Christ called the only begotten Son of God?*

Because Jesus Christ alone is the Son of God from all eternity and by nature.

5. *Are not we also children of God?*

Yes; but not from eternity, and not by nature; we became children by adoption through God's grace.

6. *Why is Jesus Christ called Our Lord?*

He is called Our Lord, first, because He is our God, and, secondly, because He is our Saviour.

THIRD ARTICLE.

“Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary.”

1. *What are we principally taught by this third article of the creed?*

That the Son of God became man through the power of the Holy Ghost.

2. *How did the Son of God become man?*

He took a body and a soul like ours.

3. *What do we call this mystery?*

The Incarnation of the Son of God.

4. *What do you believe, therefore, of Jesus Christ?*

I believe that Jesus Christ is at the same time true God and true man.

5. *Was Jesus Christ always God, and always man?*

Jesus Christ was always God, but not always man.

6. *How long is it since Jesus Christ became man?*

Over eighteen hundred years.

7. *Where was our Saviour born?*

In a stable at Bethlehem.

8. *Who came first to adore the Infant Jesus on earth?*

First on earth came pious shepherds from the neighborhood, then the Magi, or the three kings from the East.

9. *By what means were the shepherds and the Magi informed of the birth of Christ?*

The shepherds were informed of the birth of Christ by an angel, and the Magi by a star.

10. *Who is the Mother of Jesus Christ?*

The Mother of Jesus Christ is the blessed Virgin Mary.

11. *What is The Blessed Virgin therefore called?*

She is called, and is, indeed, the Mother of God.

12. *Had Jesus Christ as man a father as well as a mother?*

No: Jesus Christ as man had no father.

13. *Who then was St. Joseph?*

St. Joseph was the foster-father of Christ.

The Life of Jesus Christ.

14. *What happened to the Infant Jesus forty days after His birth?*

On the fortieth day the Infant Jesus was presented in the temple of Jerusalem.

15. *Did the Infant Jesus always remain in Judea?*

No; Mary and Joseph fled with the Child into Egypt, because King Herod sought to kill him.

16. *Where did Jesus live after His return from Egypt?*

He lived till His thirtieth year at Nazareth, in the house of His parents, and He was subject to them.

17. *Why was Jesus subject to His parents?*

Jesus, the Son of God, was subject to His parents in order to teach children to be obedient to their parents.

18. *What did Jesus do when He was twelve years old?*

When He was twelve years old, He went with his parents to Jerusalem, and after three days' absence was found in the temple.

19. *What did Jesus Christ do when He was thirty years old?*

At the age of thirty Jesus Christ began to teach in public, and to work miracles

20. *What did Christ teach?*

Christ taught what we must believe and what we must do.

21. *Can you mention some of His miracles?*

With one word He made the winds and the sea obey Him; He cured diseases of every kind, and He restored the dead to life.

22. *Why did Jesus work miracles?*

Because by His miracles He wished to show that He was the Son of God.

FOURTH ARTICLE.

“Suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried.”

1. *What special thing did Jesus Christ do to save us?*

Jesus Christ suffered for us. He was crucified and died for us.

2. *Did Christ suffer as God or as man?*

Christ suffered as man; that is, according to His human nature.

3. *Mention the principal things Christ suffered for us.*

He was mocked, scourged, crowned with thorns, and finally nailed to the cross.

4. *Who condemned Jesus to death?*

The Roman governor of Judea, Pontius Pilate.

5. *Where was Christ crucified?*

On Mount Calvary, near Jerusalem.

6. *When did Christ die?*

On Good-Friday, at three o'clock in the afternoon.

7. *How did Christ die?*

He said, "Father, into Thy hands I commend My spirit," and bowed His head and died.

8. *How did Jesus suffer His agony and death?*

Jesus suffered willingly, innocently, and patiently, out of mercy and very great love towards us.

9. *For whom did Christ die?*

Christ died for me and for all men.

10. *What happened after the death of Christ?*

The body of Jesus was taken from the cross, and laid in the grave.

FIFTH ARTICLE.

"He descended into hell, the third day he rose again from the dead."

1. *Whither did the soul of Christ go after His death?*

The soul of Christ went down into that part of hell called Limbo, where the souls of the Just were.

2. *Why were the souls of the Just in Limbo?*

Because heaven was closed by sin, and could not be opened except by Jesus Christ.

3. *How long did the soul of Jesus remain in Limbo, and His body in the tomb?*

Until the third day, which was Sunday; then Jesus rose gloriously with body and soul from the grave.

4. *Did Jesus ascend to Heaven immediately after His resurrection?*

No; after His resurrection Jesus remained on earth forty days, and appeared frequently to His disciples.

SIXTH ARTICLE.

“He ascended into heaven, sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.”

1. *What did Jesus Christ do forty days after His resurrection?*

Forty days after His resurrection, Jesus Christ ascended with his soul and body into heaven.

2. *From what place did Christ ascend into heaven?*

From Mount Olivet, before the eyes of His disciples.

3. *Did Christ ascend alone into heaven?*

No; Christ took up with Him into heaven the Just, whom He had freed from Limbo.

4. *What means, "Sitteth at the right hand of God the Father"?*

It means that Christ as man shares with His Father in heaven His power and glory.

5. *Can we also obtain heaven?*

Yes; if we believe in Jesus Christ, keep His commandments, and follow His example.

SEVENTH ARTICLE.

"From thence he shall come to judge the living and the dead."

1. *Will Christ ever come down again from heaven on earth?*

Yes; at the end of the world Christ will come from heaven upon the earth, in the sight of all men.

2. *How will Christ come?*

Christ will come with great power and majesty.

3. *Why will Christ come?*

Christ will come to judge all men, the good and the wicked.

4. *What is the judgment called that will be held at the end of the world?*

It is called the *general* judgment, or the

judgment of the world, because all man. kind will then be judged together.

5. *Whither will men go after the last judgment?*

The wicked will be cast into hell, but the good will go to heaven.

6. *Is there another judgment besides the general one?*

Yes; there is the *particular* judgment, in which every man is judged as soon as he is dead.

7. *Where will the soul go after judgment?*

The soul will go either to heaven or to hell, or to purgatory.

8. *What souls will enter heaven at once?*

The souls of the Just, that are entirely free from sin, and have no atonement to make for sins forgiven.

9. *What souls will go to hell?*

The souls of those who die in mortal sin.

10. *What souls will go to purgatory?*

The souls of the Just that are not entirely cleansed, or that have yet to atone for their sins.

11. *Will purgatory continue to exist after the last judgment?*

No; there will be no purgatory after the last judgment; there will be then only heaven and hell.

EIGHTH ARTICLE.

“I believe in the Holy Ghost.”

1. *Who is the Holy Ghost?*

The Holy Ghost is the third person in the Blessed Trinity, true God with the Father and the Son.

2. *Why is the Holy Ghost represented in the form of a dove?*

Because the Holy Ghost appeared at the baptism of Christ in the form of a dove.

3. *How did the Holy Ghost appear on Whit-Sunday?*

On Whit-Sunday the Holy Ghost came down upon the Apostles in fiery tongues.

4. *What is the action of the Holy Ghost in the Catholic Church?*

The Holy Ghost teaches and governs the Church without interruption, even unto the end of the world.

5. *What does the Holy Ghost do in our souls?*

The Holy Ghost enlightens, sanctifies, and strengthens our souls with His divine grace.

6. *What special benefits have you received from each person of the Blessed Trinity?*

God the Father created me.

God the Son redeemed me.

God the Holy Ghost has sanctified me.

NINTH ARTICLE.

“ I believe in the Holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints.”

§ 1. *On the Church in General.*

1. *Has Christ established a Church?*

Yes, Christ has established a Church, which shall exist unto the end of the world.

2. *What do you mean by the Church?*

I mean by the Church all Christians on earth who have the true faith, and are under one common head — the Pope.

3. *Is not Christ the head of the Church?*

Yes, Christ is the *invisible* head of the Church.

4. *Did Christ appoint a visible head to His Church?*

Yes; St. Peter.

5. *Who, since the death of St. Peter, is the visible head of the Church?*

The Holy Father, the Pope, who is the true successor of St. Peter, as Bishop of Rome.

6. *Are there other pastors or superiors of the Church?*

Yes; there are Bishops, who take care of the different dioceses.

7. *Who are the Assistants of the Bishops?*

The Assistants of the Bishops are the Priests.

§ 2. *On the Marks and Qualities of the Church.*

8. *Has Christ established more than one Church?*

No. Christ has established but One Church.

9. *How can we know the true Church of Christ?*

The true Church of Christ is known by the fact, that she is, 1. One; 2. Holy; 3. Catholic; and 4. Apostolic.

10. *Which Church has all these four marks?*

The Catholic Church alone.

11. *Why is the Catholic Church called also ROMAN Catholic?*

Because the Pope of Rome is her head.

12. *How is the Catholic Church one?*

The Catholic Church is one, because she is under one head, and has always and everywhere one faith and the same sacraments.

13. *How is the Catholic Church holy?*

The Catholic Church is holy, because her Founder, her doctrine, and her sacraments

are holy, and because she has always saints among her children.

14. *How is the Church Catholic, or universal?*

The Church is Catholic, or universal, because she has existed since the time of Christ, and is spread all over the world.

15. *How is the Catholic Church Apostolic?*

The Catholic Church is Apostolic, because her authority and her doctrine come from the Apostles, and because the Pope and her Bishops are the true successors of the Apostles.

16. *Can the Catholic Church err?*

The Catholic Church cannot err; she is "the pillar and ground of truth," and the Holy Ghost governs her.

§ 3. *The Communion of Saints.*

17. *Are only the faithful upon earth united in one Church?*

No. All who have died in the grace of God remain united in spirit with the faithful on earth.

18. *What is this spiritual union called?*

The Communion of Saints.

19. *Who belong to the Communion of Saints?*

1. All the members of the Catholic

Church upon earth; 2. All the souls in purgatory; 3. All the blessed in heaven.

20. *In what manner are all these souls united with one another?*

All are members of one body, whose head is Christ; and they help one another.

21. *How do the Blessed in heaven help us?*

The Blessed in heaven help us through their merits, and by their intercession for us with God.

22. *Can we also help the poor souls in purgatory?*

Yes; we help the poor souls in purgatory by prayer, by good works, and especially through the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.

TENTH ARTICLE.

“The forgiveness of sins.”

1. *What does the tenth article of the Creed teach?*

It teaches that in the Catholic Church, through the merits of Jesus Christ, we can obtain forgiveness of sins, and have the punishment due to them remitted.

2. *How are sins forgiven?*

Through the sacraments of Baptism and Penance.

3. *Can all sins be forgiven?*

Yes; all sins without exception.

ELEVENTH ARTICLE.

“The resurrection of the body.”

1. *What happens when a man dies?*

The soul leaves his body ; but the body returns into dust.

2. *How long does the body remain in this state?*

The body remains in this condition until the last day, when Almighty God will restore it to life.

3. *By what name do you call this return of the body to life?*

The Resurrection of the Body.

4. *Will the bodies of those who rise again be all alike?*

No ; the bodies of the wicked will rise again in a hideous state, while the bodies of the Just will rise in glory.

TWELFTH ARTICLE.

“And life everlasting. Amen.”

1. *What does the twelfth article of the Creed teach?*

It teaches that the Just will live forever in heaven.

2. *What is heaven?*

Heaven is the place of eternal and perfect happiness.

3. *Will not the wicked also live forever?*

Yes; but they will be punished forever in the flames of hell.

4. *What is hell?*

Hell is a place of eternal and unspeakable torment.

5. *Which are the four last things to be remembered?*

The four last things to be remembered are, 1. Death; 2. Judgment; 3. Hell; 4. Heaven.

PART SECOND.

On the Commandments.

1. *Is it enough simply to believe what God has revealed?*

No; we must also keep his commandments.

2. *What is the principal commandment, and the one which includes all others?*

The commandment to love God and our neighbor for God's sake.

§ 1. *On the Love of God.*

3. *How should we love God?*

Christ says in the Gospel, "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with thy whole heart, and with thy whole soul, and with thy whole mind, and with thy whole strength." Mark xii.

4. *What does this oblige us to do?*

To love God above all things.

5. *When do we love God above all things?*

When we love Him more than anything else, and are willing to lose all we have, rather than offend him by committing sin.

6. *Why must we love God?*

We must love God because He is our

Sovereign Good, and all good comes from Him.

7. *How can we know that we love God?*

We love God, if for His sake we avoid evil and do good.

§ 2. *On the Love of our Neighbor.*

8. *How should we love our neighbor?*

We should love our neighbor as ourselves.

9. *Who is our neighbor, whom we are commanded to love?*

Every one, whether friend or enemy.

10. *Must we love our enemies?*

Yes; we must love our enemies, and pray for them.

11. *Why must we love all men, whether friends or enemies?*

We must love them, 1. Because Christ has commanded us to do so; 2. Because all men are the children of One Father in heaven.

12. *When do we love our neighbor as ourselves?*

When we observe the commandment of Christ: "All things, whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye also to them." Matt. vii.

The Ten Commandments.

1. *Where is the commandment of love more fully explained?*

In the Ten Commandments of God.

2. *From whom did we receive the Ten Commandments of God?*

From God himself, who gave them to His servant Moses upon Mount Sinai, amidst thunder and lightning.

3. *Which are the Ten Commandments of God?*

"I am the Lord thy God," &c. (See page 9.)

First Commandment.

"I am the Lord thy God," &c.

4. *What does God require of us by the first commandment?*

He commands us to honor and worship Him as our God and Lord.

5. *How must we worship God?*

We must worship God in our heart and by outward actions.

6. *How do we worship Him in our heart?*

We worship God in our heart when we believe in Him, hope in Him, love Him above all things, and worship Him alone.

7. *Must children make acts of faith, hope, and love?*

Yes; and they must begin to do so as soon as they have attained the use of reason.

8. *What must we hope from God?*

We must hope, above all things, for pardon of our sins, for God's grace, and for everlasting life.

9. *How do we break the commandment of worshipping God in our heart?*

When we do not pray to God, or when we pray without devotion; when we have doubts in matters of faith, or listen willingly to wicked discourses against faith; when we have no confidence in God, and murmur against His holy will.

10. *How do we worship God outwardly?*

We worship God outwardly and by our actions when we attend divine service, kneel, and reverently fold our hands.

11. *How do we sin against this exterior worship of God?*

When we neglect divine service or assist at it with irreverence.

On the Veneration and Invocation of the Saints.

12. *Is it right to honor and pray to the Saints?*

Yes; it is right and profitable to honor the Saints, and to pray to them.

13. *Why do we honor the Saints?*

We honor them because they were most virtuous on earth, and are now glorious in heaven.

14. *What difference is there between the honor we show to God and that which we show to the Saints?*

We honor and worship God, and Him only, as our Sovereign Lord; we honor the Saints as the friends of God.

15. *Why do we pray to the Saints?*

We pray to the Saints in order that they may pray to God for us, and that He may help us.

16. *What difference is there between the prayer which we offer to God and the prayer to the Saints?*

We pray to God that He may help us through His almighty power; but we pray to the Saints, that they may help us through their prayers before God.

17. *Whom should we honor and venerate more than all other Saints?*

Mary, the Blessed Virgin and Mother of God.

18. *Must we respect also the images of Christ and of the Saints?*

Yes; for as a child respects the portraits of his parents, so we should certainly honor whatever represents our Lord or His Saints.

Second Commandment.

“Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain.”

1. *What does God forbid by the second commandment?*

God forbids every profanation of His holy name.

2. *How is the name of God profaned?*

1. By uttering the holy name of God without reverence; 2. By blaspheming and ridiculing religion; 3. By sinful swearing and cursing.

3. *When is God's holy name irreverently uttered?*

When the name of God is used without reason. It is also a sin to speak of the Saints, or of holy things, with levity.

4. *What is swearing?*

By swearing, we take God to witness the truth of anything we do, or say, or promise.

5. *How do we sin by swearing?*

1. When we swear falsely, or when we are in doubt about the truth of what we say; 2. When we swear without necessity, or irreverently; 3. When we swear to do evil.

6. *What is cursing?*

Cursing is to wish evil to ourselves or others. To use the name of God in cursing is a very great sin.

Third Commandment.

“Remember that thou keep holy the Sabbath day.”

1. *What does the third commandment require of us?*

It requires that we should sanctify Sunday, which is the day of the Lord.

2. *How must we sanctify Sunday?*

We must sanctify Sunday particularly by hearing Mass, and attending religious instructions. It is well, also, if possible, to be present at Vespers, or any other divine service.

3. *What are we strictly forbidden to do on Sunday?*

All unnecessary servile work is strictly forbidden.

4. *Is Sunday profaned only by doing servile work?*

Sunday is profaned also by scandalous actions, and by sinful plays and amusements.

Fourth Commandment.

“Honor thy father and thy mother.”

1. *What does God command by the fourth commandment?*

God commands us to honor, love, and obey our parents and superiors in all that is not sin.

2. *Why must we honor, love, and obey our parents?*

Because they are, after God, our greatest benefactors, and hold the place of God on earth.

3. *How do children sin against their parents and superiors?*

Children sin against their parents and superiors, 1. When they are rude and insolent to them, and cause them trouble and anger; 2. When they are disobedient and obstinate, and despise their advice; 3. When they wish them evil, insult them, and especially when they raise their hands against them.

4. *What have children to expect who sin grievously against their parents?*

The curse of God, punishment in this world, and eternal ruin in the next.

5. *What have children to expect who faithfully fulfil their duties towards their parents?*

The protection and blessing of God in this world, and heaven in the next.

6. *To whom besides their parents must children show honor, love, and obedience?*

To foster-parents, teachers, masters, and all superiors in Church or State.

Fifth Commandment.

“Thou shalt not kill.”

1. *What does God forbid by the fifth commandment?*

God forbids us to kill any one unjustly, or to injure ourselves or others in body or soul.

2. *How do we injure our neighbor's body?*

When we strike or wound him, or inflict any injury upon him.

3. *How do we sin against our own body or life?*

We sin against our own body and life by committing suicide, and when we expose ourselves, without necessity, to the danger of losing our life, or of injuring our health.

4. *What else is forbidden by the fifth commandment?*

All anger and hatred, all quarrelling and strife, all abusive and insulting words.

5. *How do we injure our neighbor in his soul?*

When we scandalize him; that is, by leading him to sin.

6. *What must we do, when we have injured our neighbor in soul and body?*

We must not only be sorry, and confess the sin, but repair, as much as possible, the evil we have done.

Sixth Commandment.

“Thou shalt not commit adultery.”

1. *What does God forbid by the sixth commandment?*

God forbids not only lustful actions with another's wife or husband, but every act of impurity, such as immodest looks, words, plays, and all actions contrary to chastity.

2. *Why must we guard against impurity?*

Because no sin is more shameful before God and men.

3. *What must we do to preserve purity?*

We must, above all, avoid wicked curiosity, bad company, and indecent plays; we must pray, and remember that God sees all.

Seventh Commandment.

“Thou shalt not steal.”

1. *What does God forbid by the seventh commandment?*

God forbids theft, cheating, and any injury done to the property of others.

2. *Is it a sin when children steal from their parents?*

Yes, it is a sin when children steal from their parents.

3. *How do we injure our neighbor's property?*

We injure our neighbor's property when we hurt or destroy anything belonging to him.

4. *What must we do when we have taken, or have found some of our neighbor's goods, or have injured them?*

We must restore the goods to the proper owner, if we can, and repair the injury done.

Eighth Commandment.

“Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor.”

1. *What does God forbid by the eighth commandment?*

God forbids us to say that which is untrue against our neighbor, especially before a court of justice.

2. *What else is forbidden by the eighth commandment?*

Lying, hypocrisy, detraction, and calumny.

3. *What is a lie?*

A lie is telling an untruth, knowingly and willingly, in order to deceive.

4. *Are we ever allowed to lie?*

Never; not even from necessity, or to prevent evil.

5. *How do we sin by detraction?*

We sin by detraction when we make known, without necessity, the faults of our neighbor.

6. *How do we sin by calumny or slander?*

We sin by calumny or slander when we accuse our neighbors of faults of which they are not guilty.

7. *How do we sin by false suspicion or rash judgment?*

We sin by false suspicion or rash judgment when we think evil of our neighbor without sufficient reason.

Ninth and Tenth Commandments.

“Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor’s wife.”

“Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor’s goods.”

1. *What does God forbid by the ninth commandment?*

God forbids all unchaste thoughts and desires.

2. *Are immodest thoughts and desires always sinful?*

Immodest thoughts and desires are always sinful, if we entertain them wilfully and with pleasure.

3. *What does God forbid by the tenth commandment?*

God forbids all unjust desires for the goods of others.

The Commandments of the Church.

1. *Are there other commandments which we must obey, besides the commandments of God?*

Yes; the commandments of the Church.

2. *What are the commandments of the Church?*

Chiefly six. (See page 11.)

First and Second Commandments of the Church.

“To rest from servile work on holy-days of obligation. To hear Mass with devotion on Sundays and holy-days of obligation.”

1. *What does the Church forbid by the first commandment?*

The Church forbids us to labor on Sundays, or holy-days of obligation, unless compelled by necessity.

2. *Why did the Church institute the holy-days?*

The Church instituted the holy-days in honor of the Lord and of His Saints.

3. *What does the Church command in the second precept?*

The Church commands us to hear Mass with devotion on Sundays and on holy-days of obligation.

4. *Who are obliged to hear Mass on Sundays and holy-days?*

All who have the use of reason.

5. *How do we sin against the second commandment of the Church?*

We sin against it, 1. When we, through our own fault, fail to hear Mass, or when we hear only part of it; 2. When, during Mass, we are wilfully distracted; when we talk, laugh, or act with irreverence.

Third Commandment of the Church.

“To keep fast in Lent, on the Ember days, on the Fridays in Advent, and on the eves of certain Festivals; and to abstain from flesh on Fridays, and on other appointed days of abstinence.”

1. *What does the Church command by this?*

The Church commands us to fast on certain days, and to abstain from the use of flesh meat.

2. *Who are bound to fast?*

All Christians who have reached the age of twenty-one, and are not excused for any good reason.

3. *On what days must we abstain from the use of flesh meat?*

On all the Fridays throughout the year, and on the fast days of obligation.

4. *Who are obliged to keep the days of abstinence?*

All Christians who have reached the age of reason (which is supposed to be their seventh year).

Fourth and Fifth Commandments of the Church.

“To confess our sins to our Pastor, or other Priest duly authorized, at least once a year. To receive Holy Communion at Easter, or thereabout.”

1. *What does the Church command by this?*

The Church commands us to confess our sins, at least once a year, to the Bishop, or to a Priest authorized by him, and to receive Holy Communion at Easter, or thereabout.

2. *At what age must we make our confession, and go to communion?*

As soon as we have reached the age of

reason, and are well instructed in the principal doctrines of the Catholic faith.

Sixth Commandment of the Church.

“To contribute to the support of our Pastors.”

1. *Are we bound to support our Pastors?*

Yes; we are bound in conscience to support our Pastors.

On the Transgression of the Commandments, or on Sin.

1. *What is sin?*

Sin is a deliberate transgression of a commandment of God or of the Church.

2. *How can sin be committed?*

Sin can be committed, 1. By bad thoughts and desires; 2. By wicked words and actions; 3. By omitting good works, which we are obliged to perform.

3. *Are sins all alike?*

No; there are grievous sins, called also *mortal* sins, and less grievous, called *venial* sins.

4. *When do we commit mortal sin?*

We commit mortal sin when we knowingly transgress a commandment in a serious matter.

5. *When do we commit venial sin?*

We commit venial sin when we transgress a commandment in a small matter.

6. *Must we fear grievous sin only?*

No; we must fear and detest all sins, whether mortal or venial.

7. *Why must we fear every sin?*

Because sin is the greatest evil on earth; therefore we must fear it more than any other evil.

8. *Why is sin so great an evil?*

Because by sin we offend God, and deserve punishment.

9. *To what punishment are we liable by sin?*

By committing mortal sin we are liable to the eternal punishment of hell, and by venial sin to a temporal punishment, either here on earth, or hereafter in purgatory.

10. *Are there other classes of sin?*

Yes; especially the seven deadly or capital sins: 1. Pride; 2. Covetousness; 3. Lust; 4. Anger; 5. Gluttony; 6. Envy; and, 7. Sloth.

On Christian Virtue and Perfection.

1. *Is it enough for us to avoid sin?*

No; we should endeavor also to become more virtuous and perfect.

2. *What must we do to become more virtuous?*

We must endeavor to do that which, though not of obligation, is yet most pleasing to God.

3. *Which are the Theological virtues?*

The Theological virtues are : . Faith, Hope, and Charity.

4. *How may children make short acts of Faith, Hope, and Charity?*

O my God, I believe in Thee, who art eternal truth!

O my God, I hope in Thee, who art infinite mercy!

O my God, I love Thee, my Sovereign Good, who art worthy of all love!

5. *When are we obliged to make acts of Faith, Hope, and Charity?*

Often during life, but especially at the hour of death.

6. *What must we do to become more perfect?*

We must, 1. Be fond of praying, and listening to Christian instruction; 2. Be in a state of grace, and offer up all that we do to God; 3. Imitate Christ, and often think of God.

PART THIRD.

*On the Means of Grace.**On Grace.*

1. *Can we by our own strength keep the commandments, and be saved?*

No; to do this we require the assistance or the grace of God.

2. *How many kinds of grace are there?*

Two kinds; actual grace and sanctifying grace.

3. *How does God assist us by actual grace?*

God assists us by actual grace when He enlightens us and strengthens us to avoid evil and to do good. For this reason it is called also "grace of assistance."

4. *What is the effect of sanctifying grace?*

By sanctifying grace our soul becomes pure and holy in the sight of God.

5. *When do we receive sanctifying grace?*

We first receive sanctifying grace in holy baptism. We recover it, if lost, by the Sacrament of penance.

6. *How do we lose sanctifying grace?*

By mortal sin.

7. *What good may we derive from being in the state of grace?*

In the state of grace we can do good works that merit for us the joys of heaven.

8. *Must every Christian perform good works?*

Yes; for our Lord says, every tree that doth not yield good fruit, shall be cut down, and cast into the fire. Luke iii. 29.

9. *What does God particularly require in our good works?*

He requires that they should be performed with a good intention.

10. *What is a good intention?*

A good intention is the purpose of performing all our actions for the honor and glory of God.

11. *How may we in a few words form a good intention?*

My God and my Lord! All for Thy honor and glory!

12. *When should we form this good intention?*

It is very well to form it often during the day, especially in the morning.

13. *How do we obtain the grace of God?*

We obtain the grace of God principally through the holy sacraments and prayer.

The Sacraments.

1. *Who instituted the Sacraments?*

Jesus Christ, Our Lord.

2. *For what purpose did Christ institute the Sacraments?*

Christ instituted the Sacraments to give us grace, and so make us good and holy.

3. *How many things are there in every Sacrament?*

Three things: 1. Some visible action or outward sign; 2. The grace given by this sign or action; 3. The institution of these two things must come from Christ.

4. *How many Sacraments did Christ institute?*

Seven. 1. Baptism; 2. Confirmation; 3. The Eucharist; 4. Penance; 5. Extreme Unction; 6. Holy Orders; 7. Matrimony.

The Sacrament of Baptism.

1. *Which is the first and most necessary sacrament?*

The first and most necessary sacrament is Baptism.

2. *What is Baptism?*

Baptism is the sacrament in which we are cleansed from sin, and are sanctified by water and the word of God.

3. *How is Baptism administered?*

Water is poured upon the head of the person to be baptized, and at the same time the following words are said: *I baptize thee in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.*

4. *From what sin are we cleansed by Baptism?*

From original sin, and from all other sins committed before Baptism.

5. *How are we sanctified by Baptism?*

We receive by Baptism sanctifying grace, and become thereby children of God, and heirs of heaven.

6. *Who can and must baptize?*

The Bishop or priest; but, in case of necessity, any one can, and must baptize.

7. *What do we promise in Baptism?*

We promise to renounce Satan and all sin, and to remain true to the Catholic faith.

Confirmation.

1. *What is Confirmation?*

Confirmation is the sacrament by which we, after Baptism, are strengthened by the Holy Ghost, to keep the faith received in Baptism, and confess it openly.

2. *Who administers Confirmation?*

The Bishop administers Confirmation.

3. *How does the Bishop give Confirmation?*

The Bishop gives Confirmation by praying over those who are to be confirmed, laying hands on them, and anointing them with chrism.

4. *Who can be confirmed?*

Every baptized person can be confirmed.

5. *Is Confirmation necessary for salvation?*

Confirmation is not absolutely necessary for salvation; but it would be a grievous sin to neglect it.

6. *What is chrism?*

Chrism is holy oil, mixed with balsam, solemnly blessed by the Bishop on Holy Thursday.

7. *Why does the Bishop make the sign of the cross with chrism on the forehead?*

To remind us that we must profess our faith as openly as if the cross, the sign of a Christian, were branded on our foreheads.

8. *Why does the Bishop strike each one confirmed on the cheek?*

To remind us that it is the duty of a Christian to suffer all things, and even death itself, for the sake of Christ.

9. *Can we be confirmed more than once?*

No; for Confirmation, like Baptism and Holy Order, can be received only once.

10. *Why is it that these Sacraments can be received but once?*

Because Baptism, Confirmation, and Order imprint on the soul a spiritual mark which cannot be effaced.

The Holy Eucharist.

§ 1. *The Presence of Christ in the Most Holy Sacrament.*

1. *What is the Most Holy Sacrament of the Altar?*

The Most Holy Sacrament of the Altar is the true body and blood of Jesus Christ under the appearance of bread and wine.

2. *When did Jesus Christ institute this sacrament?*

At the last supper, the evening before He died.

3. *What did Jesus Christ do at the last supper?*

He changed bread and wine into His body and blood, and gave it to His Apostles.

4. *Has Christ also given the power to others to do the same?*

Christ gave this power to His Apostles and their successors, the Bishops and Priests of the Catholic Church.

5. *When do the Bishops and Priests exercise this power?*

In the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, at the consecration.

6. *Is there no longer bread and wine on the Altar after the consecration?*

No: there is on the Altar the true body and the true blood of Jesus Christ, under the appearances of bread and wine.

7. *What must we do in the church in presence of the blessed Eucharist?*

We must remember that Jesus Christ is there present; we must humbly adore Him, and conduct ourselves with all reverence.

§ 2. *The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.*

8. *Who instituted the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass?*

Jesus Christ instituted the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.

9. *For what purpose did Christ institute the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass?*

He instituted it as a perpetual sacrifice of the New Law.

10. *What happens, therefore, in Holy Mass?*

In Holy Mass Christ offers Himself to His heavenly Father under the appearances of bread and wine in the hands of the Priest.

11. *When did Christ first offer Himself to His heavenly Father?*

Upon the cross on Mount Calvary.

12. *Is the Sacrifice of the Mass the same as that of the Cross?*

Yes; the Sacrifice of the Mass and the Sacrifice of the Cross are essentially one and the same.

13. *Is there no difference between the Sacrifice of the Mass and the Sacrifice upon the Cross?*

There is no difference except in the manner in which the sacrifice is offered.

14. *In what manner did Christ offer Himself upon the cross?*

Jesus Christ offered Himself upon the cross in a *bloody* manner; that is, He suffered, bled, and died.

15. *In what manner does He offer Himself up in Holy Mass?*

Christ offers Himself up in an *unbloody* manner; that is, without suffering, bleeding, or dying.

16. *Which are the principal parts of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass?*

1. The Offertory; 2. The Consecration;
3. The Communion.

17. *For what end is Holy Mass offered up?*

Holy Mass is offered up for the honor of God, and for our advantage.

18. *How must we hear Mass?*

We must hear Mass with the greatest respect and devotion, because Jesus Christ Himself is present.

§ 3. *Holy Communion.*

19. *What do we receive in Holy Communion?*

In Holy Communion we receive the true body and the true blood of Jesus Christ, as the food of our souls.

20. *Are we obliged to drink also out of the chalice to receive this holy sacrament?*

No; for under the appearance of bread, Christ is present with His flesh and His blood.

21. *What does Holy Communion effect in us?*

Holy Communion unites us most intimately with Jesus Christ, and imparts to us many graces, if we receive it worthily.

22. *Who receives Holy Communion unworthily?*

Whoever receives it in a state of mortal sin.

23. *What must we do, therefore, if we have committed a grievous sin?*

We must make a good confession before receiving Holy Communion, in order to be in the state of grace.

24. *What else have we to do to prepare ourselves for Holy Communion?*

After having made a good confession, we must pray with devotion, and remain fasting from midnight.

The Sacrament of Penance.

1. *What is the Sacrament of Penance?*

Penance is a sacrament by which the priest, as the representative of God, forgives sins.

2. *To whom does the priest forgive sins?*

To him only who is heartily sorry for his sins, who makes a sincere confession of them, and really and truly intends to sin no more.

3. *Who gave the power of forgiving sins?*

Jesus Christ gave this power to the

Apostles and to their successors, saying: "Whose sins you shall forgive, they are forgiven them, and whose sins you shall retain, they are retained." John xx.

4. *Can all sins be forgiven by the Sacrament of Penance?*

Yes; all sins committed after Baptism can be forgiven by the Sacrament of Penance.

5. *Why must we confess our sins to obtain forgiveness of them?*

Because Christ so ordered when He instituted the Sacrament of Penance.

6. *How many things are necessary to receive this sacrament worthily?*

The following: 1. Prayer to the Holy Ghost; 2. Examen of conscience; 3. Contrition, with a firm purpose of amendment; 4. Confession of our sins; and, 5. Satisfaction.

§ 1. *Prayer to the Holy Ghost and Examen of Conscience.*

7. *What must we first do before going to confession?*

We must pray devoutly to the Holy Ghost.

8. *What must we ask from the Holy Ghost?*

We must ask grace from Him, so that we may know our sins, be heartily sorry for them, confess them sincerely, and resolve never to commit them again.

9. *What is it to examine our conscience?*

To examine our conscience is to reflect seriously as to what sins we have committed since our last confession.

10. *How can we examine our conscience?*

By considering the commandments of God and of the Church, and by asking ourselves at the same time how we have sinned against these in thought, word, and deed, and by omission.

11. *How can children easily remember their sins?*

By calling to mind how they have behaved in church, — at school, — at home towards their parents, brothers and sisters, — in the street, — at play, — when alone and when with others.

12. *Must we examine ourselves also in regard to the number of our sins?*

Yes; we must examine ourselves at least in regard to the number of mortal sins we have committed.

§ 2. *Contrition and Purpose of Amendment.*

13. *What is the principal thing in preparing ourselves for confession?*

The principal thing is contrition, with the firm purpose of amendment.

14. *What is contrition?*

Contrition is a hearty sorrow and detestation of sin.

15. *What are the qualities of contrition?*

Contrition must be, 1. Interior; 2. Universal; 3. Supernatural.

16. *When is contrition interior?*

When we are sorry for our sins, not with our lips only, but when we detest them in our heart as the greatest evil, and sincerely wish not to have committed them.

17. *When is contrition universal?*

It is universal when it extends to and embraces all mortal sins.

18. *Is our contrition of the right kind, if we are sorry for our sins on account of earthly punishment, injury, or disgrace?*

No; this would be only *natural* contrition.

19. *When is our contrition supernatural?*

Contrition is supernatural when we are

sorry for our sins because by them we have offended God, deserved hell, etc., as faith teaches us.

20. *What must we do to obtain true sorrow for our sins?*

We must consider, 1. That by committing sin we deserve to be punished by God; 2. That through sin we have offended our best Father and greatest Benefactor, God, our Sovereign Good, who is worthy of all love.

21. *What must be necessarily joined with contrition?*

With contrition must be joined a purpose of amendment.

22. *What is a purpose of amendment?*

A purpose of amendment consists in the firm determination to sin no more, and to become better.

23. *What are the qualities of a purpose of amendment?*

A purpose of amendment must proceed from the heart, and must be firm.

24. *When must we make an act of contrition?*

Before confession, or at least when absolution is given by the priest.

25. *How do you make an act of contrition?* (See Prayers, p. 5.)

§ 3. *Confession.*

26. *What is confession?*

Confession is the accusation of our sins to a priest, in order that we may be forgiven them.

27. *What are the qualities of a good confession?*

Confession must be, 1. Entire; 2. Sincere; 3. Plain.

28. *When is confession entire?*

Confession is entire when we confess at least all the mortal sins which we remember, their number, and the necessary circumstances under which we committed them.

29. *If we do not remember the number, what must we do?*

We must tell the number, as nearly as we can, by declaring how often in a week or in a month we have committed the sin.

30. *Must we also confess venial sins?*

We are not obliged to confess venial sins; but it is good and wholesome to do so.

31. *When is confession sincere?*

Confession is sincere when we accuse ourselves in the same manner as we find ourselves guilty before God.

32. *What should the penitent consider, when he is ashamed to make a sincere confession?*

He should consider that, if he wilfully

conceals any mortal sin, none of his sins will be forgiven him ; besides, he commits another terrible sin, that is, sacrilege, and thus makes himself wretched in time and in eternity.

33. *What must we do if we have omitted a sin which we were bound to confess ?*

1. If we have omitted any sin through forgetfulness, we must accuse ourselves of it in the next confession.

2. If we have omitted any sin through deliberate intention, the confession was of no use or value, and must be repeated.

34. *When is confession plain ?*

Confession is plain when we use such language that the priest can understand all we say.

35. *How do we commence our confession ?*

We kneel down, make the sign of the cross, and say: *I confess to Almighty God, and to you, Father, that I have often and grievously sinned. . . . My last confession was made . . .* (Here mention how long it is since you have been to confession.) *Since that time I have sinned as follows: —*

36. *How do we end our confession ?*

For these, and all the sins of my life, I am heartily sorry, because I have of-

fended God. I intend to amend my life, and to sin no more. I ask penance and absolution from you, my Father.

37. *What must we do then?*

We must then listen to the advice of the Father confessor, pay attention to the penance given us, and again make an act of contrition.

We must be careful not to leave the confessional before the priest tells us to go.

§ 4. *Satisfaction.*

38. *What must we do after confession?*

We must perform the penance given us, and amend our life.

39. *For what purpose does the confessor impose penance upon us?*

Penance is imposed, 1. For the atonement of the temporal punishment of sin; 2. For the correction of our life.

40. *When God forgives sin, does He also remit the punishment of sin?*

When God forgives sin, He always remits the eternal punishment of sin, but not always the temporal punishment.

41. *What is meant by temporal punishment?*

Temporal punishment is that which we have to suffer either here on earth or in purgatory.

Extreme Unction.

1. What is Extreme Unction?

Extreme Unction is the Sacrament which gives the sick grace to die well, and if expedient for their salvation, restores them to health.

2. How is Extreme Unction administered?

The priest anoints the sick person with holy oil, and prays over him.

3. What does the sick person receive thereby?

He receives the grace of God for the benefit of his soul, and frequently also for the benefit of his body.

4. Who can and must receive Extreme Unction?

Every Catholic Christian who has attained the age of reason, and who is dangerously sick.

5. How must we receive Extreme Unction?

In the state of grace, for which reason we should, if this be possible, first go to confession, or make an act of perfect contrition.

Holy Orders.

1. What is the Sacrament of Holy Orders?

It is a sacrament in which priests re-

ceive power and grace to perform their sacred office.

2. *What power is given to the priest in Holy Orders?*

The power in particular of offering up the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, and of forgiving sins.

Matrimony.

1. *What is Matrimony?*

Matrimony is a sacrament by which a Christian husband and wife receive grace to perform their duties to each other faithfully, and to bring up their children as good Christians.

On Prayer.

1. *What is prayer?*

Prayer is the raising of our hearts to God.

2. *Why do we pray?*

We pray that we may praise God, thank Him for His blessings, and ask His grace.

3. *How must we pray that our prayer may be pleasing to God?*

We must pray with devotion and with confidence.

4. *When do we pray with devotion?*

When we pray with a pure heart, and avoid as much as possible all distraction.

5. *What must we do to pray with devotion?*

We must remember that God is present, and that we speak to our Sovereign Lord.

6. *Can we hope that God hears our devout prayer?*

Yes; we can and must hope it, if that for which we pray is for our good.

7. *Why should we hope this?*

Because God has promised it to us through Christ His Son.

8. *Is prayer necessary?*

Yes; prayer is necessary to obtain God's grace and blessing, and eternal happiness in the world to come.

9. *When must we pray?*

We must pray very often, particularly in the morning and in the evening, before and after meals, at the Angelus, and when we are in church.

§ 1. *The Lord's Prayer.*

10. *Which is the best of all prayers?*

The best of all prayers is the "Our Father," or the Lord's prayer.

11. *Why is it called the Lord's prayer?*

It is called the Lord's prayer because Christ our Lord taught it to us.

12. *Say the Lord's prayer.*

Our Father, who art in heaven, &c. (See page 3.)

13. *Of what does the Lord's prayer consist?*

The Lord's prayer consists of an invocation and seven petitions.

14. *Which is the invocation?*

"Our Father, who art in heaven."

15. *Of what does the word "Father" remind us?*

It reminds us that God is our Father, and that we should pray to Him with child-like love.

16. *Why do we say "Our Father," and not "my Father"?*

We say "Our Father," because God is the Father of all men; therefore we should pray for one another.

17. *Why do we add, Who art in heaven?*

To remind us that when we pray, our hearts should be raised from all earthly things up to God in heaven.

18. *What do we ask for in the first petition: "Hallowed be Thy name"?*

We ask that God's name may never be profaned, and that God may be known and glorified more and more.

19. *What do we ask in the second petition: "Thy kingdom come"?*

We ask that we may all obtain the kingdom of heaven.

20. *What do we ask in the third petition: "Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven"?*

We ask that we and all men may do the will of God on earth, as it is done by the Angels and Saints in heaven.

21. *What do we ask in the fourth petition: "Give us this day our daily bread"?*

We ask God to give us every day all that we need for soul and body.

22. *What do we ask in the fifth petition: "Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us"?*

We ask Him to forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who have offended us.

23. *What do we ask in the sixth petition: "Lead us not into temptation"?*

We ask God to keep us from temptation, or to give us grace to overcome it.

24. *What do we ask in the seventh petition: "But deliver us from evil"?*

We beg of God to guard us against all evil, especially against sin and eternal damnation.

25. *What does the word "Amen" signify?*

Amen signifies : So be it.

§ 2. *The Angelical Salutation.*

26. *What do we usually say after the "Our Father"?*

We say the Angelical Salutation, or the Hail Mary, in honor of the Mother of God.

27. *How many parts are contained in the "Hail Mary"?*

Two ; a prayer of praise, and a prayer of petition.

28. *Of what consists the prayer of praise?*

1. Of the words of the Archangel Gabriel : "Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee ; blessed art thou among women." 2. Of the words of St. Elizabeth : "And blessed is the fruit of thy womb." (Jesus.)

29. *Why do we call Mary "full of grace"?*

Because Mary received from God more grace than all other creatures.

30. *Why do we say, "The Lord is with thee"?*

Because the Blessed Virgin was so

closely united with God on earth, and is now even more perfectly united with Him in heaven.

31. *Why do we say, "Blessed art thou among women?"*

Because God has chosen the Blessed Virgin before all women to be the Mother of His Divine Son.

32. *Why do we add, "And blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus"?*

Because we venerate and praise the Blessed Virgin principally on account of her Divine Son.

33. *Of what does the prayer of petition consist?*

Of the words which the Church has added: "Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death. Amen."

34. *What do we say in the morning, at noon, and in the evening, when the Church bell rings?*

We say the Angelus, or "the Angel of the Lord," &c. (See Prayers, p. 8.)

35. *Why do we pray more to the Blessed Virgin than to the other Saints?*

Because the Blessed Virgin is the Mother of God, and excels all the other Saints in grace and holiness and in power before God.

DEVOTIONS BEFORE CONFESSION.

Prayer to the Holy Ghost.

O my Lord and kind Father! I approach Thee with a sincere determination of making a good confession, so that Thou mayest receive me again as Thy dear, obedient child. But as I can do nothing without Thy divine assistance, I earnestly beseech Thee to have mercy on me, and to send the Holy Ghost with His assisting grace into my poor heart.

Come, Holy Ghost! and enlighten me, that I may know my sins, and be sorry for them from my whole heart; that I may confess them sincerely, and amend my life.

Our Father, &c.

Examination of Conscience.

Call to your mind when and how you made your last confession, and whether you have fulfilled the penance which the confessor gave you. Then examine your conscience upon the commandments of God and of the Church, and upon the seven deadly sins.

Against the First Commandment of God.

Have I deliberately doubted in matters of faith, or did I take pleasure in hearing religion ridiculed? Have I presumed on God's mercy? Have I neglected to make acts of Faith, Hope, and Charity? Have I habitually omitted my morning and evening prayers, or have I said them without devotion? Was I ashamed to make the sign of the cross, to take holy water, to kneel while praying? &c.

Against the Second Commandment of God.

Have I spoken the holy names of God, Jesus, or Mary with irreverence? Have I cursed? Have I sworn falsely, or in trivial matters? Have I murmured against God? Have I spoken with contempt of holy things and ceremonies?

Against the Third Commandment of God.

Have I been absent from Mass and Catechism on Sundays and holy days, or was I late through my own fault? Have I thought of other things during Mass, spoken, laughed, or gazed around, thereby distracting others?

*Against the Fourth Commandment of
God.*

Have I been rude and insolent, or disobedient and obstinate to my parents, teachers, or other superiors? Have I offended, grieved, or angered them? Have I despised their advice, wished them evil, insulted them, and even lifted up my hand against them?

*Against the Fifth Commandment of
God.*

Have I, with the intention of provoking them, given nicknames to others, even to my sisters and brothers? Have I quarrelled with them, struck or injured them? Have I been rude and insolent towards servants? Have I been unkind and unmerciful to the poor? Have I been stubborn, quarrelsome, and malicious? Have I provoked others to anger? Have I, without necessity, exposed my life? Have I been cruel to animals? Have I induced others to do evil, or was it my desire to do so? Have I helped others to do wrong, or, when they had done wrong, did I praise and justify them? Have I given bad example to others by word or deed? Have I caused others to quarrel?

Against the Sixth and Ninth Commandments of God.

Have I looked at immodest things, or thought, spoken, or read of them; and have I liked to hear of them? Have I had immodest and impure desires? Have I acted immodestly before children or grown persons, while I was dressing or undressing myself?

Against the Seventh and Tenth Commandments of God.

Have I stolen fruit, money, or anything else, or had I the will to steal? Have I received from others things that were stolen, and have I kept things that were stolen? Have I neglected to return things I had found? Have I injured the property of others? Have I made presents to others without the knowledge and consent of my parents?

Against the Eighth Commandment of God.

Have I told lies? Have I told lies that injured any one? Is it not an habitual sin in me to tell lies? Have I falsely accused my neighbor, or injured his good name? Was this done out of hatred or envy? Have I spoken of what I should have concealed? or have I been silent in regard to faults of which I should have informed my parents and teachers?

Commandment of the Church.

Have I eaten flesh meat on forbidden days? Have I done so out of contempt or indifference for the commandments of the Church?

Against the Seven Deadly Sins.

Have I been proud of my acquirements, my clothes, of the position and wealth of my parents? Have I not thought myself better than others, and have I not, for that reason, despised them, mocked them, and laughed at them? Have I studied and prayed only to be praised or rewarded? Have I been avaricious, and have I kept everything for myself, without dividing it with my sisters and brothers, or the poor? Have I been envious, and therefore angry and sad, if others were praised, or were successful, and on the contrary have I been glad when they were punished or suffered loss? Have I been intemperate in eating and drinking, either because I drank and ate too much, or because I ate with greediness, and drank what was injurious to my health? Have I been lazy or slothful in learning my lessons? Have I not spent my time in idleness, that is, in playing and running about? Have I, without sufficient reason, neglected school, or when present at school,

shown a want of diligence and attention? and have I not prevented others from learning their lessons by my talk and malicious conduct?

Considerations to excite Contrition.

1. Consider, my child, that through sin you have deserved to be punished by Almighty God in this and in the next world. Remember what the damned angels and men suffer in hell, and what the poor souls in purgatory suffer. Alas! what would have become of you, if God had punished you in the same manner! Make up your mind what you will do; whether you desire in future to be a good and obedient child of the heavenly Father, so that one day you may be with Him in heaven.

2. Represent to yourself Christ upon the cross. See how His hands and feet are fastened with nails; how He is crowned with thorns, covered with wounds and blood, and how He suffers and dies for you! Behold, my child! Your sins have caused all this; for on account of your sins, Our Blessed Lord had to suffer so much, and to die upon the cross. And are you therefore not sorry to have committed them?

3. Remember also the many and great favors which God has bestowed upon you; how He has given you life, health, daily food and clothing, good parents, and a holy Guardian-Angel; how thankful you should be to Him, that you are not a pagan or a Jew, but a child of our holy Catholic Church! O, how wicked, how ungrateful a child would you not be, if you should continue to offend such an infinitely kind Father, who is

at the same time our Sovereign and Best Good, and how wicked it would be for you not to love Him! After having reflected upon all this, make, with a penitent heart, an act of contrition (see page 5). If you have time, say the following:—

O my dearest Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ! behold at Thy feet Thy poor, sinful child. Alas! I am ashamed before Thee! Thou hast shown me so much kindness, and came even from heaven into this world, and suffered so many pains and torments, and finally gave Thy life for me; and I have been so ungrateful, and have committed so many sins! If Thou hadst punished me, as Thou, O just Lord, didst punish the wicked Angels after the first sin, alas! how unhappy would I be now, and for all eternity! But Thou hast always been, and art yet, full of love and mercy towards me, Thy ungrateful child. O, my Jesus, I am so sorry that I offended Thee so often and so grievously! I beseech Thee most humbly, my Lord and my Saviour, to forgive me, and to receive me again into Thy favor. I hate and detest all my sins, and promise Thee, O my God, to sin no more. I will in future love Thee above all things, and avoid all occasions and dangers of sin.

so that I may not have the misfortune to fall again.

O holy Virgin Mary, Mother of God, pray for me now, that I may make a good confession, and obtain pardon of my sins. Assist me, my dear holy Guardian-Angel, that from henceforth I may never sin again, but lead a good and pious life.

Prayer after Confession.

O my Lord and Father! how great is Thy goodness to me! On account of the merits of Jesus Christ, Thou hast given me, through the words spoken by the priest, Thy representative, the absolution of all my sins, I can now hope to be again Thy good and obedient child. I thank and praise Thee, Father of mercy, for this great and unmerited grace! I shall never forget it, and I shall be most careful not to fall back into the old sins. Bless, O heavenly Father, this my resolution, and give me strength to be true to it unto death. I ask this grace, through the blood of Jesus Christ, which was shed for me upon the cross, and through the merits of Mary, His blessed mother, and of all the saints. Amen.

Renewal of the Baptismal Vows, in order to strengthen the Resolutions made in Holy Confession.

O my God, through Thy merciful love, I, a weak little child, was cleansed from sin in holy baptism, renewed according to Thy image, sanctified through Thy grace, and received into Thy holy Church!

I cheerfully confess my belief in Thee, O Father! in Thy Son, and in the Holy Ghost, and, according to this holy faith, without which there is no salvation, will live and die in the one Holy and Catholic Church.

I again renounce all sin. I renounce Satan, with all his pomps and vanities; and I promise Thee, O my Lord, to keep all Thy holy commandments faithfully, to love Thee above all things, and my neighbor as myself.

I beseech Thee to awaken and renew in me the grace which Thou didst give me in holy baptism, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYERS AT MASS.

Prayer before Mass.

O Almighty God ! we, Thy children, are assembled here before Thy holy Altar to assist at the Sacrifice of the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ. Grant that we may assist at it with the attention, respect, and fear due to so great a Mystery. Drive from our minds all bad, vain, and distracting thoughts, that we may appear in Thy Presence with pure hearts, and join with all Thy Church, in heaven and on earth, in giving honor, glory, and thanks to Thee for all Thy goodness and mercy to us, through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Confiteor.

I confess to Almighty God, to Blessed Mary ever Virgin, to blessed Michael the Archangel, to blessed John the Baptist, to the holy Apostles Peter and Paul, and to all the Saints, that I have sinned exceedingly in thought, word, and deed, through my fault, through my fault, through my

most grievous fault (*here strike your breast three times*); therefore, I beseech the blessed Mary ever Virgin, blessed Michael the Archangel, blessed John the Baptist, the holy Apostles Peter and Paul, and all the Saints, to pray to the Lord our God for me. Amen.

Prayer at the Gospel.

O good Jesus! who in Thy holy Gospel hast said, "Suffer little children to come unto Me," behold us, Thy children, who stand before Thee this day to learn Thy holy laws and commandments. O give us grace to keep them ever in our hearts, that we may walk before Thee in holiness and justice all the days of our lives. Amen.

At the Offertory.

Receive, O holy Father, Almighty and eternal God, this offering which Thy Priest presents to Thee for us. We believe most firmly and surely that it will soon be changed into the true body and true blood of Christ. Receive it thus changed, O heavenly Father, for the glory of Thy most holy name, for the pardon of our sins, in thanksgiving for all Thy mer-

cies, and that we may obtain new graces, especially those most necessary for our salvation. We ask like favors for all our superiors, both spiritual and temporal; for our friends and our enemies, and for all Christians, living and dead. Amen.

Before the Elevation.

We earnestly pray and beseech Thee, most merciful Father, through Jesus Christ our Lord, that Thou wilt accept and bless this offering, this unspotted Sacrifice. We offer it, first, for the holy Catholic Church, that Thou wilt be pleased to keep it in peace, to protect, unite, and govern it throughout the whole world; together with Thy servant N——, our Pope, and N——, our Bishop, and all the true believers and followers of the holy Catholic Faith. Amen.

Memento for the Living.

Be mindful, O Lord, of Thy servants, (*here think of those for whom you especially desire to pray*). Be mindful, also, of all here present, whose faith and devotion are known to Thee, for whom we offer this Sacrifice of praise, or who offer it up for themselves, their fami-

lies and friends. We pray for the safety of their souls, for their final perseverance and eternal happiness; and, in fine; we recommend all their desires to Thee, the living, true, and everlasting God. Amen.

At the same time, we honor the memory of the ever glorious and immaculate Virgin Mary, the Mother of our Lord and God Jesus Christ; and also of Thy blessed Apostles, and all Thy holy Martyrs and Saints who have lived and died in this holy faith which we profess, and in this one Church in which we live. For the sake of their merits and prayers, grant us in all things Thy help and protection, through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

We beseech Thee also, O Lord, graciously to accept this Sacrifice at the hands of us Thy servants, and of Thy whole family; bless the days of our life with Thy holy peace, save us from everlasting damnation, and may we be counted ever among the number of Thy elect, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

At the Elevation of the Sacred Host.

I believe, O Jesus, that Thou art truly present here, as God and Man, under the form of bread. I adore Thee, with the

deepest reverence, as my Lord and my God. O Jesus! may I live for Thee only; may I die for Thee willingly. O Jesus! living or *dying*, let me ever be *Thine*. Amen.

At the Elevation of the Chalice.

O my Saviour! I believe that Thou art here. I believe that Thy most precious Blood, which was shed for us once on the Cross as a sacrifice for our sins, is really present in this cup, under the appearance of wine. O holy Blood of my Redeemer! wash and purify me from all my sins. Amen.

After the Elevation.

Being mindful, therefore, O Lord, of Jesus Christ Thy Son our Lord, of His blessed passion, His resurrection from the dead, His glorious ascension into heaven, we offer before the throne of Thy most excellent majesty, of thy gifts and presents, this holy, pure, and unspotted Host, the bread of eternal life, and the chalice of everlasting salvation. Amen.

O Lord, remember also Thy servants who are gone before us with the sign of faith, and rest in the sleep of peace. To them, O Lord, and to all who sleep in

Christ, grant, we beseech Thee, a place of refreshment, light, and peace, through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

At the Pater Noster.

Teach us, O Lord, to pray. Let us not think little of our prayers, because they are ours, since Thou, our God, thinkest so much of them. Pray with us and in us, dear Lord, and we will be sure to pray in a manner pleasing to Thee.

“Our Father, who art in heaven,” &c.

Before the Communion.

Lamb of God, who takest away the sins of the world, have mercy on us! Lamb of God, who takest away the sins of the world, have mercy on us! Lamb of God, who takest away the sins of the world, give us peace! Amen.

Lord, I am not worthy that Thou shouldst enter under my roof, but only speak the word, and my soul shall be healed.

After the Communion.

I firmly believe that Thou, Lord Jesus Christ, art truly present in this Sacrament of the altar. I adore Thee with all the

powers of my soul. I would desire above all things to be united to Thee by receiving Thy Body and Blood. But since my sins render me unworthy of so great a favor, be pleased, my dear Saviour, to come into my heart by Thy grace; so that, united to Thee, I may fitly praise and thank Thee for thy gifts to me and to all mankind, and especially for the privilege of having been present at this holy Sacrifice. Amen.

After the Blessing.

May this act of homage, which is now ended, be pleasing to Thee, O most Holy Trinity! and grant that the Sacrifice here offered by Thy servant the Priest may be acceptable in Thy sight, and may bring reconciliation and salvation to me, and to all for whom it has been offered, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayer after Mass.

We earnestly thank Thee, O God, for having permitted us to assist at the celebration of this Holy Sacrifice. We humbly entreat Thee to pardon the faults which we have committed during it, either by

inattention or neglect. Grant that we may remember through the day what Thou hast done for us. Grant that no thought, word, or action of ours may deprive us of the graces which, through Thy infinite mercy, we have received. Amen.

SHORT PRAYERS BEFORE COMMUNION.

An Act of Faith.

My Saviour Jesus Christ, because Thy divine word has declared it, I believe more firmly than if I saw it with my own eyes, that it is Thyself I am about to receive, in receiving the blessed Sacrament. Amen.

An Act of Contrition.

My God, I am sincerely sorry for having offended Thee by sin, because Thou art infinitely good and worthy of all love. Pardon all my sins, especially my sins against Thy presence in this Sacrament. I firmly purpose, by the help of thy grace, never to offend Thee again. Amen.

An Act of Humility.

Lord, I am not worthy that Thou shouldst enter under my roof; but I rely upon Thy infinite goodness. Speak only the word, and my soul shall be healed of all its infirmities. Amen.

An Act of Love.

My Saviour Jesus Christ, I love Thee with my whole heart, and above all that I have dearest in the world. May nothing ever destroy or lessen this love in my heart! Amen.

An Act of Desire.

Come, O divine Jesus, come into my heart. Deliver it from all its evils; fill it with all thy graces. It desires ardently to receive Thee, O blessed Lord and Redeemer. Amen.

PRAYERS AFTER COMMUNION.

An Act of Adoration.

My Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, I adore Thee, really present within me. I join the profound adoration which the

Angels and Saints pay Thee in heaven, and I offer to the most Blessed Trinity all these homages, which Thou Thyself dost render in this most Holy Sacrament. Amen.

An Act of Thanksgiving.

My God, I thank Thee with my whole heart for all the graces I have received from Thee; especially for the infinite goodness with which Thou hast been pleased to give Thyself to me, a poor, unworthy sinner. Amen.

An Act of Petition.

Divine Saviour, Thou knowest all the wants of my soul. Remedy its weakness and its poverty. Increase in me Thy divine love and the fear of offending Thee.

O Lord, help Thy holy Church in all her wants; sanctify all those who are her children; bless my parents, my friends, and my enemies; my superiors and benefactors; give us all grace to love Thee and serve Thee alone and forever. Amen.

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